

**CITY OF SURPRISE
ARTS AND CULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD**

Meeting Minutes

January 7, 2013 / 6:00 PM

**COUNCIL OVERFLOW ROOM
16000 NORTH BULLARD AVENUE
SURPRISE, ARIZONA 85374**

CALL TO ORDER:

A. Roll Call

Sandra Staehle (Chair), Margaret Lieu (Vice Chair), Kathie Morgan, Susan deJong, Fred Ramsay, Virginia Cicero, Dennis Hansen, Heather Donaldson and Paul Frie

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Current Events Reports

Chair Staehle reported that she was disgusted by Council at the workshop where WHAM requested additional funding for the Art is Alive in Surprise festival as she felt they were blindsided and setup by Councilman Biundo and the Mayor. She advised that it was clear that the votes that night did not exist to get the additional funding, however it will be placed on the January agenda for a vote. Chair Staehle advised the Commission that in light of several situations which have taken place in terms of trying to make this commission move forward, including but not limited to the Council Work Session referenced above, she has chosen to resign from the Arts & Cultural Advisory Commission because she does not think there is anything else she can do to have a positive impact. Various other commission members urged Chair Staehle to rethink her decision as they would like to have her remain on the Commission and possibly consider staying on as a member rather than the Chairperson. Chair Staehle said in light of the comments of the Commission she would hold off on making this decision until next month's meeting. Chair Staehle asked staff to provide this Commission with the numbers to date for costs spent for The Thunderbird Artists including the value. Kathie Morgan commented that we are lucky to have both WHAM and Thunderbird Artists select Surprise for their festivals as they will both help us advocate the arts, and she asked this commission to not go after Thunderbird Artists because they are upset with process as there is as much to be gained as there is to be lost. Virginia Cicero reported that she attended a few special events put on by the West Valley Arts Council which were well attended as well as the Burnett Family Bluegrass Festival. Chair Staehle asked the Commission to please let Heather Donaldson know if they are going to be attending an art event so that she can post a potential quorum. New member, Dennis Hansen, introduced himself to the Commission.

D. Staff reports

Paul Frie advised the Commission of Robo Lights in Palm Springs.

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Connie Whitlock of WHAM updated the Commission with what is currently happening at WHAM and thanked the Commission for all of their support in 2012.

Andy Cepon, Surprise resident, advised the Commission that he met with Lorraine Pino of the Glendale Convention and Visitor's Bureau who is working to promote the West Valley and art regionally. He commented that at the Commission Handbook Training he was disheartened by comments stating that Commissions cannot form subcommittees and he urged this Commission to explore this with City Council or through City staff.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS – NON PUBLIC HEARING

Item 1 – CITYWIDE – City Clerk, Sherry Ann Aguilar, will administer the Oath of Office to newly appointed Arts and Cultural Advisory Commission member, Dr. Dennis Hansen.

Linda Stevens, Deputy City Clerk, administered the Oath of Office to Dr. Dennis Hansen.

Item 2 – CITYWIDE – Consideration and action to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2012 Arts & Cultural Advisory Commission Meeting.

Motion to approve minutes of the December 3, 2012 Arts & Cultural Advisory Commission Meeting – Fred Ramsay, 2nd Susan deJong. Seven yes votes. Motion carried.

Item 3 – CITYWIDE – Discussion, consideration and possible action regarding the Supplemental Recommendation Form as provided in the Boards and Commission Handbook.

Paul Frie advised the Commission that staff will formalize the previously submitted budget recommendations and if there are no changes, staff will submit to Council. Kathie Morgan wanted to be sure that her comments were forwarded to Chair Staehle regarding her comments to the previously submitted budget.

Item 4 – CITYWIDE – Further discussion regarding the Arts and Cultural Advisory Commission's involvement in promotion of interest and information in the Surprise Arts community.

Susan deJong advised the Commission that she has met with Desiree Christopher and Sara Burbridge of the West Valley Arts Council to discuss Hot Coffee Cool Topics. She further advised that the first few programs would consist of a tour of the Valley Vista Performing Arts Center which has already been approved by Cindy Miller of the Dysart School District, a program to take place at West Valley Arts Council, a program to take place at WHAM location and Fred Ramsay has agreed to speak.

Public Comment

Connie Whitlock advised the Commission that she would be happy to help out with Art Demos and contact information for an art lecturer.

Item 5 – CITYWIDE – Update on Surprise Arts and Cultural Advisory Commission booth at the Surprise Fine Art & Wine Festival.

Paul Frie informed the Commission that the CRS Department will supply the table, tent and chairs for this Commission at the festival. The Commission asked if they could have a 2x3 map of the City of Surprise to highlight all public art locations. The Commission discussed having a survey to ask festival attendees what they think art is and/or what they would like to see in Surprise. A booth coverage schedule was also agreed upon by the Commission.

Item 6 – CITYWIDE – Continued discussion regarding how the Surprise Arts and Cultural Advisory Commission can initiate participation in the Surprise community.

Commission agreed that this topic has already been addressed in previous discussions this evening.

Item 7 – CITYWIDE – Discussion regarding process for selection of art to be hung at City Hall.

Chair Staehle advised the Commission that Desiree at WVAC has put out a call to artists and gave them until January 14th to get their responses in. Then the following week she plans to set up a meeting to have the art reviewed with Susan and Virginia. Once the art is selected, the City will receive it for review by the City committee for approval. Paul Frie advised that the Facility Use Agreement was forwarded to WVAC last week for execution.

Item 8 – CITYWIDE – Consideration and possible action to place items on a future agenda.

- Discussion on strategic plan
- Discussion regarding whether this Commission wants to have an ex-officio member
- Debriefing of Surprise Fine Art & Wine Festival
- Discussion regarding collateral for the SACAC
- Update on Community Outreach
- Update on art hanging at City Hall

ADJOURNMENT – Motion by Fred Ramsay, 2nd Susan deJong. Seven yes votes. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

Paul Frie, Recreation Division Manager
Community & Recreation Services

CERTIFICATION:

I, Heather Donaldson, Administrative Specialist for the City of Surprise Community and Recreation Services Department, Maricopa County, Arizona, do hereby verify that these are the true and correct minutes of the Arts and Cultural Advisory Board meeting held on January 7, 2013.

Heather Donaldson, Administrative Specialist